
FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTORS

OF THE

STATE ALMSHOUSE,

AT TEWKSBURY.

OCTOBER, 1857.

BOSTON:

WILLIAM WHITE, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1857.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

INSPECTORS' REPORT.

*To His Excellency, HENRY J. GARDNER, Governor, and the
Honorable Council.*

We beg leave to present to your Excellency, and through you, to the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives, our Report of the affairs of the State almshouse, Tewksbury, for the fraction of the year ending September 30, 1857. The exhibits of the superintendent, the physician, and the chaplain, herewith presented, furnish all the facts and statistics that are important for your excellency, and for the people of the Commonwealth, to be informed of. Taken in connection with the statistics of previous years, they afford great aid in forming correct conclusions as to the expediency, or inexpediency, of the present plan of supporting State paupers, and with the reports from the other like institutions, tend to throw light upon the whole subject of foreign pauperism in our Commonwealth. The internal affairs of our own institution are elaborately set forth in the report of the superintendent. The numbers supported; the expenses incurred for their maintenance; the products of the farm; are all stated in detail, and with as much accuracy, as the case admits. The harvest is not yet gathered in, and its value must of course be, to some extent, matter of estimate.

It has been the constant endeavor of the Inspectors, as of the other officers of the institution, to make the paupers, as far as possible, support themselves, by their labor; and although the institution is very far from being self-supporting, and will, doubtless, never be so, we may reasonably hope to make some advances in that direction. The point is very distant, indeed, but we may strive, with some success, to annually diminish that distance. With this object in view, we are persuaded that the first and most essential step is to increase the productiveness of the farm, through the labor of the inmates of the house. Such an increase has been steadily going on from the first, till now the most remunerative portions of the farm are those that have been reclaimed from a previous condition of utter and complete uselessness. To accomplish this, a great amount of work has been done, furnishing profitable employment for the men that are able to labor at all. The fruits of this labor will be realized in after years. Other portions of the farm consist of a very light soil, that though easily worked, in order to be rendered available, needs ample manuring. A good and judicious husbandry, exercised over the whole by the superintendent, is fast bringing the State almshouse farm in Tewksbury from its exhausted and worn out condition, into a state of high cultivation, that will favorably compare with the best farms in the county of Middlesex. The Tewksbury farm has been a by-word and reproach throughout the Commonwealth—the subject of many a jeer and sarcasm. It has been supposed to be a sort of Sahara, on a small scale, where nothing could grow but mullins and an exceedingly stunted kind of pines. That it is in a hopeful way of losing this unenviable character, we refer to its products the present year, as exhibited in the superintendent's report.

A very great improvement has been made in the internal arrangements of the house, by the introduction of a steam-heating apparatus; for the construction of which the last legislature made provision. It bids fair to operate successfully, and to warm the establishment much more effectually, and at less cost of fuel than heretofore, and what is of still greater importance, the lessening the danger from fire—a calamity that, from the combustible character of the building, has ever been feared.

Within the last year improved arrangements have been made

for the accommodation and safe keeping of the insane, of which class we have always more or less. A cheap building has been put up, within the inclosure of the yard, where these unfortunates can be properly guarded and kindly cared for. There is a class of the insane that can, no doubt, be as well provided for,—and at very much less expense,—in the State almshouses, as in the lunatic hospitals. When any of our insane become furious or unmanageable, we avail ourselves of the law that authorizes their transfer to a State lunatic hospital; and from there we often receive, in return, another class—the harmless or demented—such as need only a place of safe-keeping and kind care.

From the hospital department we offer the report of its experienced and devoted head, Dr. J. Brown, to which we especially invite your attention. It presents the affairs of that department in a very favorable aspect, but not more favorable than true. That the mortality of the house has sensibly diminished, since the interior improvements of removing the cookery, and the introduction of more thorough ventilation, is an undoubted fact. Another agency in this regard, to which the physician alludes, that of dispensing with the use of alcoholic stimulants in the hospital, is worthy the serious consideration of the public generally, and of medical men in particular.

The school has been continued under the charge of Miss Barber, assisted by Miss Hussey, and is in a highly prosperous state. The teachers have been unremitting in the discharge of their duties, and fully alive to the responsibilities resting upon them wisely and religiously to train the poor neglected children intrusted to their care. It is to be hoped that many of these little ones may be saved, through the instrumentalities here exercised, from a course of idleness and vice, and grow up to be useful members of the State, whose beneficiaries they are.

The chaplain of the institution has continued his active labors, as heretofore, working faithfully and untiringly for the moral and religious improvement of those committed to his care. For more particular information, we refer to his report, herewith transmitted.

We regard it as an important object to find suitable homes for the children who are sent to this institution on account of their being bereft of their natural guardians, or having parents living who, from their vicious lives and habits, are disqualified

entirely for the parental office. We prefer country situations for this class of children, when they can be obtained, where they will be less exposed to such temptations as abound in our populous cities. Within the last ten months we have placed forty-six children with responsible persons. It is ever to be regarded as an important duty of the managers of the institution, to inquire, from time to time, through their officers, or personally, after the welfare of the indentured children, and to ascertain whether the parties who have assumed the care of them are discharging their trusts faithfully and humanely.

It only remains to add our testimony to the ability and fidelity with which all the officers of the institution have performed their several duties. They appear to have been governed by a common and harmonious desire to protect the great interests committed to their charge.

E. HUNTINGTON, }
GEO. FOSTER, } *Inspectors.*
J. G. PEABODY, }

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, }
October 14, 1857. {

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF INSPECTORS:—It affords me pleasure to submit for your consideration my Fourth Annual Report of the institution placed under my charge.

You are aware that, by an Act of the last legislature in relation to public reports, that my present statement includes the year ending on the thirtieth day of September, instead of the thirtieth day of November, as formerly, making a reduction of one-sixth of the usual time. This you will readily perceive is unfortunate for me, (though not more so than to others similarly situated,) inasmuch as I can give but an estimate of the production of the farm in this report.

Our crop this year is much larger than the last, notwithstanding that the potato blight has reduced that essential article at least one-half. By the hog disease, also, a loss has been sustained at this institution of not less than one thousand dollars. The average weekly cost will be larger than the last year, in consequence of all kinds of provisions being so high, and having the most of this year's crop on hand, an estimate of which will be found on an another page. The average cost last year was \$1.04 per week for each inmate—this year, \$1.06. Special attention has been given to the cultivation of the farm, and much effort has been put forth to secure large and profitable crops.

About forty-five acres have been under cultivation, of which twenty were planted to potatoes, and up to a few weeks since promised a large harvest.

The balance has been devoted to the growth of corn, rye, cabbages, carrots, turnips, parsnips, peas, beans, beets, &c., all of which will unquestionably yield a large and profitable harvest, and will do much towards the support of the family the coming winter.

That class of inmates belonging to our State almshouses who ought to share most largely in our sympathy, and who justly deserve special consideration and attention, are the children. And there is no department of this institution around which clusters as much interest as the school now under the tuition of Misses Barber and Hussey. It gives me pleasure to state that the teachers have been faithful to their charge, and the school is in a prosperous condition. The average attendance has been one hundred and sixty. Their studies have been geography, grammar, arithmetic, reading, writing, spelling, and oral exercises. And considering the large number the teachers have to instruct, and the constant changes that are being made by the discharge of some to go away, some to their friends, and others that homes are found for them, and by others filling their places who are more ignorant and vicious, great praise is due the instructors for the success that has attended their labors.

The medical department has been during the last year, as formerly, under the supervision of Jonathan Brown, M. D. During the first part of the year he was assisted by James S. Hill, M. D., who left in February, and has since died in a distant State. Since Dr. Hill left, Dr. Brown has been assisted by W. H. W. Hinds, who has also acted as clerk of the institution.

I can cheerfully testify to the fidelity with which they have discharged their many arduous and responsible duties, both to their unfortunate patients and to the best interest of the Commonwealth. Notwithstanding his many duties in the medical department, Dr. Brown has also rendered me much valuable assistance in the general management of the institution. The other officers have all faithfully attended to the duties assigned them, and it gives me pleasure to be able to say that they have treated those committed to their care with uniform kindness, and have been earnest in their endeavors for economy in all their departments, and with hearty good-will and feeling they have coöperated with me in carrying on the operations of the institution for the best interests of our Commonwealth.

Under the blessing of divine Providence we have enjoyed a season of comparative health. There has been, at no time, any serious prevailing epidemic, and you will see by the accompany-

ing report of the physician, that the number of deaths has been much reduced from last year. But one hundred and seven have died during the ten months, or an average of $10\frac{7}{10}$ monthly, against an average of $16\frac{1}{2}$ per month last year. The religious services have been held as usual on the Sabbath; they have been attended by the Rev. J. M. Burt, our chaplain, who has faithfully attended to his duties, and to his report I refer you for information as to the moral welfare of those under his charge. The evening services have been attended as usual.

We have found homes out of the State during the past ten months, and under your direction I have sent one hundred and thirty-six.

ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF PRODUCE RAISED ON THE FARM.

77 bushels rye,
 5 tons rye straw,
 175 bushels sweet corn, in ears,
 2,000 bushels potatoes,
 1,000 bushels turnips,
 100 bushels onions,
 8,000 heads cabbages,
 1,000 bushels carrots,
 60 bushels beans,
 80 barrels green peas,
 2 tons squash,
 200 bushels parsnips,
 100 bushels beets.

The farm has been very much improved, the past summer, by clearing away stumps and stones. About eight acres of the wild land has been thoroughly reclaimed. I have also built a coal-house and hen-house, at an expense of about seven hundred dollars.

ESTIMATE OF PRODUCE ON HAND.

1,600 bushels potatoes, at 75 cts.,	.	.	.	\$1,200 00
1,000 bushels turnips, at 33 cts.,	.	.	.	333 33
8,000 heads cabbages, at 4 cts.,	.	.	.	320 00
77 bushels rye, at \$1.25,	.	.	.	96 25
1,000 bushels carrots, at 30 cts.,	.	.	.	300 00

16 tons hay, at \$15,	. . . . .	\$230 00
5 tons rye straw, at \$12,	. . . . .	60 00
100 bushels onions, at \$1,	. . . . .	100 00
10 barrels flour, at \$7,	. . . . .	70 00
150 bushels beans, at \$2,	. . . . .	300 00
75 bushels corn, at \$1,	. . . . .	75 00
15 barrels pork and beef, at \$20,	. . . . .	300 00
200 bushels parsnips, at 50 cts.,	. . . . .	100 00
100 bushels beets, at $33\frac{1}{3}$ cts.,	. . . . .	33 33
Other vegetables not named,	. . . . .	75 00
		<hr/>
		\$3,592 91

GOODS ON HAND.

West India goods,	. . . . .	\$412 00
400 tons coal, at \$6.50,	. . . . .	2,600 00
Dry goods, . . . . .	. . . . .	2,675 00
Stock in shoe shop,	. . . . .	586 15
Wood and lumber,	. . . . .	250 00
Drugs and medicines,	. . . . .	367 00
Stock—8 oxen, at \$80,	. . . . .	640 00
2 cows, at \$50,	. . . . .	100 00
3 horses, . . . . .	. . . . .	500 00
27 old hogs, at \$30,	. . . . .	810 00
13 pigs, at \$3,	. . . . .	39 00
		<hr/>
		\$8,979 15

FARMING UTENSILS.

4 ox carts, at \$40,	. . . . .	\$160 00
2 ox wagons, at \$100,	. . . . .	200 00
1 horse wagon,	. . . . .	20 00
1 buggy and harness,	. . . . .	275 75
1 two-horse carryall and harness,	. . . . .	450 00
2 ox sleds, . . . . .	. . . . .	25 00
2 ox harrows,	. . . . .	7 00
9 ox yokes,	. . . . .	27 00
4 stone drags,	. . . . .	7 00
9 ox chains, 6 horse chains, shovels, forks, hoes,		
one set of drilling tools, stone hammers, &c.,		95 00
7 ploughs, 5 iron bars, pickaxes, &c.,		65 00

1 double sleigh,	\$50 00
1 single sleigh,	25 00
1 double harness,	20 00
1 single harness,	15 00
1 cart harness,	10 00
1 chain harness,	10 00
1 night wagon,	50 00
5 wheelbarrows,	10 00
1 swill wagon,	10 00
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	\$1,731 00

Farming utensils, stock, goods, and provisions on hand at the commencement of the year, . . .	\$9,033 09
Paid for Brooms,	116 62
Smith work,	165 51
Crackers,	621 23
Dry goods,	2,463 46
Fresh and salt fish,	853 94
Flour,	6,382 96
Furniture,	72 00
Corn, meal and oats,	1,445 20
Small groceries,	870 70
Hardware, farming tools, &c.,	478 01
Hay,	882 47
Improvements,	209 18
Lime and sand,	148 53
Beef and pork,	4,541 60
Drugs and medicines,	184 93
Milk, butter, and eggs,	2,959 84
Oil,	213 37
Potatoes,	937 44
Postage,	40 50
Paints, oil, and glass,	149 12
Repairing house,	79 19
Sundries,	576 85
Transportation of Paupers,	868 21
Shoe stock,	630 12
School books and stationery,	94 15
Soap,	684 07

Paid for Salaries and labor,	\$5,435 43
Stock,	620 25
Railroad transportation,	1,376 52
Tin and wooden ware,	101 41
West India goods,	3,320 50
Wood and coal,	3,674 64
Due for Medicines,	160 75
Beef, W. I. goods, &c.,	250 00
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	\$51,208 71

From this amount should be deducted

for the estimate of produce on hand, \$3,592 91	
West India goods, coal, dry goods, stock	
in shoe shop, wood, lumber, &c.,	8,979 15
For farming utensils, carriages, &c.,	1,731 00
For coal and hen houses,	700 00
Cash due for oxen, casks, &c.,	500 00
For transportation of paupers,	868 21
Cash paid for land,	625 00
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	\$16,996 27

Making the net sum for the support of inmates, . \$34,211 44
being \$45.73 for each pauper, ten months, or
\$1.06 per week, for their support.

The number in the house at the commencement of

the year was	703
Admitted during the ten months,	1,314

Of this number there were admitted from

Lowell,	344
Boston,	226
Transient,	89
Salem,	83
Lawrence,	70
Tewksbury,	62
Cambridge,	55
Lynn,	48
Born in house,	42
Chelsea,	34

Charlestown,	27
Worcester Insane Hospital,	21
Andover,	16
Somerville,	16
Waltham,	15
Taunton Insane Hospital,	14
Haverhill,	11
Ipswich,	10
North Andover,	9
Newburyport,	9
Hopkinton,	9
South Danvers,	7
Watertown,	6
Woburn,	6
Winchester,	6
Newton,	6
Reading,	5
Stoneham,	5
Medford, Roxbury, Saugus, Salisbury, and Melrose, four each,	20
Billerica, Townsend, Shirley, Sudbury, South Reading, Beverly, and Gloucester, three each,	21
Malden, Bradford, Holliston, and Lexington, two each,	8
Groton, Marlboro', Topsfield, Hamilton, Dra- cut, N. Reading, Bridgewater State Alms- house, Methuen, Chelmsford, Brighton, Lancaster Industrial School, Georgetown, Wayland, and Amesbury, one each, . . .	14
Total,	<hr/> 1,314

Age when admitted.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
10 years and under,	185	188	373
Between 10 years and 20 years, . .	70	76	146
20 " 30 " . .	135	156	291
30 " 40 " . .	99	109	208
40 " 50 " . .	97	47	144
50 " 60 " . .	59	26	85
60 " 70 " . .	29	12	41
70 " 80 " . .	12	7	19
80 " 90 " . .	4	2	6
Over 90 " 		1	1
Totals,	690	624	1,314

Of the foregoing number, there were born in -

Ireland,	609
Massachusetts, (mostly of foreign parentage,)	343
England,	85
British Provinces,	54
New Hampshire,	40
Scotland,	33
Maine,	28
New York,	26
Vermont,	12
Other States,	23
Italy,	4
Germany,	4
Prussia,	3
France,	2
East Indies,	2
Wales, Portugal, Holland, Sweden, at Sea, 1 each,	5
Unknown,	41
In the house at the commencement of the year,	703

2,017

Deaths,	107
Births, (including stillborn,)	51
Average number,	770
Present number,	751

Before closing this report, gentlemen, allow me to express to you my deep-felt gratitude for the kindness, sympathy, and assistance I have received from you in the performance of my many arduous duties.

ISAAC H. MESERVE,

Superintendent.

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, }
October 9, 1857. }

Dr. THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS *in account with* ISAAC H. MESERVE, *Superintendent.* *Cr.*

1856. Dec.	To cash paid for supplies,	.	\$4,177 81	1856. Dec.	By cash received from State Treasurer,	.	\$4,177 81
1857.				1857.			
Jan.	cash paid for supplies,	.	4,401 06	Jan.	cash received from State Treasurer,	.	\$4,261 56
Feb.	cash paid for supplies,	.	4,141 49	Feb.	cash received for things sold, &c.,	.	139 50—4,401 06
March,	cash paid for supplies,	.	2,996 19	March,	cash received from State Treasurer,	.	4,141 49
April,	cash paid for supplies,	.	3,508 98	April,	cash received from State Treasurer,	.	2,769 97
May,	cash paid for supplies,	.	4,953 01	May,	cash received for things sold, &c.,	.	226 22—2,996 19
June,	cash paid for supplies,	.	2,406 71	June,	cash received from State Treasurer,	.	3,351 73
July,	cash paid for supplies,	.	4,173 64	July,	cash received for things sold, &c.,	.	157 25—3,508 98
August,	cash paid for supplies,	.	5,895 04	August,	cash received from State Treasurer,	.	4,754 98
Sept.	cash paid for supplies,	.	4,114 04	Sept.	cash received for things sold, &c.,	.	198 03—4,953 01
					cash received from State Treasurer,	.	2,371 47
					cash received for things sold, &c.,	.	35 24—2,406 71
					cash received from State Treasurer,	.	3,842 64
					cash received for things sold, &c.,	.	331 00—4,173 64
					cash received from State Treasurer,	.	5,895 04
					cash received from State Treasurer,	.	3,930 12
					cash received for things sold, &c.,	.	183 92—4,114 04

Dr. Account with Superintendent—Continued. Cr.

1856.			1856.	From the appropriation of 1855.	
Dec.	Bricks and mason work,	\$133 66	Dec.	By cash received from State Treasurer, . .	\$133 66
1857.			1857.		
April,	Lumber and castings,	380 04	April,	cash received from State Treasurer, . .	380 04
May,	Labor on building,	109 00	May,	cash received from State Treasurer, . .	109 00
June,	Carpenter work,	22 51	June,	cash received from State Treasurer, . .	22 51
Sept.	Lumber,	197 34	Sept.	cash received from State Treasurer, . .	197 34
		\$842 55		Appropriation for heating State Almshouse.	\$842 55
Sept.	Boiler, pipe, labor &c.,	1,000 00	Sept.	cash received from State Treasurer, . .	\$1,000 00

ISAAC H. MESERVE, Superintendent.

This certifies that we have examined the above accounts of Isaac H. Meserve with the Commonwealth, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

E. HUNTINGTON, }
GEO. FOSTER, } Inspectors.
J. G. PEABODY, }

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, Oct. 14, 1857.

P H Y S I C I A N ' S R E P O R T .

To the Inspectors of the State Almshouse, Tewksbury:—

GENTLEMEN:—I have the honor to present to you, for the fourth time, a synopsis of the condition of the Medical Department of this institution. In doing so, I am pleased to be able, again, to report so favorably. The improvement in the general health of the house, so manifest for the last two years, is owing to a variety of causes, among the more important of which may be mentioned the enlarged cooking arrangements, increased ventilation, more thorough classification of the inmates both sick and well, better heating apparatus, and so on, embracing a number of minor items not perhaps of sufficient importance to make special mention.

I will here introduce a table showing this favorable change more clearly, perhaps, than could be exhibited in any other way. The table is divided into four periods, for convenience, and shows the number of deaths in each period, and the monthly average in each. The first period embraces the first eleven months after the house was opened—the others ten months each, succeeding the first in the order in which they are placed in the table.

	1st Period, 11 Months.	2d Period, 10 Months.	3d Period, 10 Months.	4th Period, 10 Months.	Whole time, 41 Months.
Number of deaths in each period,	280	221	133	107	741
Average number of deaths per month in each period,	25.5	22.1	13.3	10.7	18.07

It may, however, be borne in mind that the house, when built, was so deficient in its internal arrangements and con-

struction, that not more than half the number of inmates sent in during the first week after it was opened could be accommodated with comfort. The consequence was, that a large amount of sickness ensued, making it necessary in the outset to enlarge and improve the buildings in many respects; but, owing to the necessity of obtaining appropriations to carry on the work, a number of months elapsed before any particular change could be effected in the health of the inmates by these means.

Let me refer again to the experiment of discontinuing the use of alcoholic and vinous liquors as stimulants in sickness. This experiment has been rigidly adhered to, the past year, confirming the opinion given in a former Report, that this class of "patients, as a whole, are far better off *without* than *with* these remedies;" and to show at a glance the number of deaths in the house, both when the remedy was used in such cases as are generally considered suitable, and since it has been disused in all cases, I will refer to the foregoing table. The experiment commenced at the beginning of the third period in the table, and has continued for twenty months, to the present time. I wish to be understood, that I do not attribute the great change exhibited in this table wholly to the banishment of these stimulants; on the contrary, it must be ascribed, in a great measure, to the improvements before mentioned, some of which went into operation about the time the liquor was discontinued. But the remarkable diminution in the number of deaths immediately following its disuse is worthy of notice.

An almshouse, from the nature of the case, contains two classes of inmates among whom mortality is very great. I mean infants, and the old and infirm with broken-down constitutions. Of the former class, foundlings and orphans under one year of age nearly all die. Comfortable quarters only can be expected for the latter class; and as a general thing, the almshouse is their home for the remainder of their lives. Nearly fifty per cent. of all the deaths in the house, during the last ten months, have occurred in these two classes of inmates, while the number admitted is only about ten per cent. of the whole.

Hooping cough and scarlet fever have caused considerable sickness among the children. The cases were generally mild, and easily managed. Typhoid fever, during the winter and spring

months, prevailed among the men in a severe form, and proved fatal in a few cases. This fever was most severe with those whose constitutions were broken down by dissipation and exposure.

It has been the pleasure, as well as the endeavor, of the superintendent, at all times to coöperate and assist in investigating the causes of sickness among those committed to his supervision, and he has readily seconded such suggestions for the welfare of the sick as seemed practicable; and I feel it a privilege to testify to the faithfulness and interest he has taken to render the unfortunate people as comfortable as the circumstances of their situation will admit.

To those officers who have assisted in the care of the sick, I feel obliged, and hope their zeal and patience in well doing will never tire.

The accompanying tables show, in a condensed form, the main facts relating to this department. The first shows the amount of sickness, the second the number of deaths, and the third the births.

The whole number of cases of sickness, recorded in the hospital books for the last ten months, is nine hundred and ninety-four. The average has been one hundred and forty-three; the largest number, at any time, one hundred and seventy-four; the smallest number one hundred and twelve. The average number of men forty-nine; of women forty-two; of children fifty-two.

The number of deaths has been one hundred and seven—sixty-nine less than during the corresponding months of last year.

The number of births has been fifty-one—a decrease of twenty-four from the same months last year.

Please accept my sincere thanks for the continuation of that kindness which has rendered my labors so pleasant since the opening of the institution.

JONATHAN BROWN,

Physician.

STATE ALMSHOUSE, TEWKSBURY, }
October 1, 1857. }

TABLE No. 1,

Showing the Number of Cases of Sickness in the State Almshouse, Tewksbury, from December 1, 1856, to September 30, 1857, with the Numbers for each Month, and the Names of the Principal Diseases.

DISEASES.	Total.	December.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.
Abscess,	17	2	4	2	2	1	1	1	2	—	2
Alimentary Canal, Diseases of:—											
Cholera Infantum,	6	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	2
Cancrum, Oris,	29	4	2	1	6	7	2	—	1	5	1
Diarrhœa,	44	2	2	6	3	—	1	3	6	9	12
Dysentery,	12	2	—	—	1	—	3	2	—	1	3
Other Diseases of the Alimentary Canal,	31	—	—	2	3	3	1	2	4	4	12
Debility,	105	11	8	12	14	13	14	7	11	7	8
Dropsy,	4	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Eye, Diseases of,	97	12	13	6	8	7	10	15	7	7	12
Fever, Ephemeral,	67	4	4	4	12	8	6	10	8	7	4
Typhoid,	32	1	3	9	6	2	6	2	1	2	—
Intermittent,	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Jaundice,	5	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—
Nervous Centres, Diseases of:—											
Hydrocephalus,	8	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	2	—	1
Delirium Tremens,	15	—	1	1	—	—	1	2	2	2	6
Palsy,	6	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	1
Other Dis. of Nervous Centres,	23	—	8	4	—	—	6	1	3	1	—
Marasmus,	12	1	1	—	3	2	2	—	—	1	2
Puerperal,	50	7	3	4	3	6	4	4	4	4	11
Respiratory Organs, Diseases of:—											
Consumption,	30	4	3	4	3	5	4	—	3	2	2
Lung Fever,	18	—	4	3	8	1	1	1	—	—	—
Influenza,	41	10	11	5	3	6	2	1	—	1	2
Pleurisy,	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Hooping Cough,	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	10	18
Other Dis. of Respiratory Org.	5	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—
Rheumatism,	11	1	3	1	1	—	—	1	2	1	1
Surgical Diseases:—											
Fracture of Femur,	3	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other Fractures,	3	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Frost Bite,	9	—	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Surgical Diseases,	22	—	2	—	2	5	3	1	1	2	6
Skin, Diseases of:—											
Erysipelas,	5	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Scarlet Fever,	21	—	1	4	5	6	2	—	—	1	2
Scald Head,	14	4	—	1	3	—	—	3	—	3	—
Scabies,	60	10	32	13	—	—	1	4	—	—	—
Other Diseases of the Skin,	22	1	2	5	—	1	1	2	4	3	3
Venereal Diseases,	48	2	7	5	—	8	4	5	4	4	9
Ulcer,	38	10	6	2	4	3	3	3	2	2	3
Other Diseases, (Miscellaneous,)	42	10	4	2	2	4	4	5	1	5	5
Totals,	994	101	131	105	98	93	92	80	74	88	132

TABLE No. 3,

Showing the Number of Births in the State Almshouse, Tewksbury, during each Month, from December 1, 1856, to September 30, 1857, with the Sex, Twins, Stillborn, and Birthplace of the Mothers.

MONTH.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Twins.	Stillborn.	Birthplace of Mothers.				
						Ireland.	U. States.	British Am.	England.	East Indies.
December, . . .	7	3	4	—	2	4	1	1	1	—
January, . . .	3	1	2	—	1	3	—	—	—	—
February, . . .	4	2	2	—	—	2	—	1	—	1
March, . . .	3	2	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
April, . . .	7	3	4	2	—	4	2	—	—	—
May, . . .	4	3	1	—	1	4	—	—	—	—
June, . . .	4	2	2	—	—	3	—	—	1	—
July, . . .	4	—	4	—	—	2	—	1	1	—
August, . . .	4	3	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
September, . . .	11	6	5	—	1	8	2	1	—	—
Totals, . . .	51	25	26	2	7	36	6	4	3	1

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

To the Inspectors of the State Almshouse, Tewksbury :—

GENTLEMEN :—As Chaplain of the institution under your inspection, it affords me pleasure to submit, for your consideration, such statements as my official position seems to require, and as a report of reasonable brevity will allow.

The religious exercises of this institution during the financial year now closed have, in general, been the same as in preceding years. On Sabbath morning a sermon has been preached, accompanied by the usual devotional exercises; in the afternoon, Sabbath school services; and in the evening, a religious meeting, at which a portion of Scripture has been expounded, or the subject of the morning's discourse has been taken up and made the basis of additional remarks. It has been my object to occupy as much of the Sabbath with religious exercises as would be likely to be productive of any good. In conducting these exercises, experience has taught me that simplicity and directness of speech, coupled with an earnest style, are the essential elements to secure attention and produce effect—elaborately prepared discourses being almost universally unappreciated. Nor is it at all surprising that this should be the case, when it is remembered that the education of large numbers of these people has been grossly, if not entirely neglected, while the intellect of others, naturally talented and well educated, has been beclouded, and the moral perceptions of nearly all have been blunted by vicious practices of almost every conceivable description. Alas, how fallen! and how mighty the influence necessary to restore them!

The attendance upon these Sabbath services has been all that could reasonably be required. In the morning, ordinarily, the congregation is equal to the capacity of the chapel; yet not

more than two-thirds of the inmates who are able, and ought to attend, can be accommodated. The Sabbath school is large, embracing all the children and young persons of suitable ages to attend. In conducting the school, I have been assisted, more or less, by several of the officers of the institution, particularly by Miss Barber and Miss Meserve, who have rendered constant and very valuable service. Indeed it would have been almost, if not entirely, impossible for me to have instructed so many small children to any advantage, had it not been for these two lady helpers. The principal object which it has been my desire to accomplish in the Sabbath school, has been to store the minds of the children with the *sacred text*—a thing in my judgment greatly neglected among religious people of this age in training children.

It affords me pleasure to refer to the decided and unswerving influence of our able superintendent, in favor of morality and religion. His interest in this all-important department of the institution under his charge, is unabated. He has nobly sustained evening devotions—a service which he commenced last year, and which is entirely voluntary on his part. Besides, he has given his personal attention, and that constantly, to the public religious exercises of the chapel, and in all cases has heartily approved of every measure adapted to promote moral and religious improvement.

The week-day school, in point of interest and importance, is hardly second to any department in this institution, not merely because the children and youth are about the only hopeful subjects for intellectual, moral, and religious improvement, but because the teachers actually sustain a sort of double relation to the scholars—that of mother and instructor. Nor is that maternal interest which sympathizes with the child in its misfortunes, and seeks to develop talent, govern the passions, cultivate the affections, and inspire a spirit of personal respect and ability to accomplish something in the world, *to be less prized* than a qualification to impart instruction in the ordinary branches of common schools, and secure suitable discipline. Entertaining this view, I feel gratified in being able to state that, in my judgment, our teachers, Miss Mary Barber and Miss D. M. Hussey, combine, in a very high degree, these important qualifications. The school, under their tuition, has given

evidence of decided improvement, and in proof hereof it is only necessary to state that, at the close of the summer term, seven boys and ten girls were found worthy to receive prizes for good deportment in school and in meeting.

In closing this report, I desire to state that a sense of justice impels me to refer, with gratitude, to the undiminished interest which you, gentlemen, have constantly manifested in the educational, moral, and religious improvement of the people under your inspection.

JOSEPH M. BURTT,

Chaplain.

LOWELL, October 7, 1857.

